

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 11, 2007. Claims 1-16 are pending. Claims 1 and 10 are independent. Claims 1, 6, 10 and 15 have been amended. The drawings and the specification have also been amended.

In the Office Action, the drawings were objected to due to certain informalities.

By way of this Amendment, the drawings have been amended to attend to the drawing objections. Accordingly, withdrawal of those objections is requested.

In the Office Action, the specification was objected to because of certain informalities.

By way of this Amendment, the specification, and in particular, the title of the application, has been amended to attend to the objection to the specification. Accordingly, withdrawal of that objection is requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-8 and 10-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,456,282 (Karube).

Claim 1, as amended, is not anticipated by Karube at least because claim 1 recites:

A display device (1) comprising a number of picture elements (4) and a display driver device comprising driving transistors (21) to be connected in series with the picture elements the display driver device comprising means (8) for monitoring output voltages of the display driver device, **the display driver device comprising means for detecting an open output of the**

display driver device to the picture elements.

(emphasis added).

On the other hand, Karube describes that "when the voltage at the node 'b' in FIG. 7 varies depending on the threshold voltage of the front stage inverter INV1, there is the possibility that the output of the capacity type DAC circuit 13 does not output correctly to the node 'a' in FIG. 7. Therefore, in this embodiment, the node "b", which is at the opposite side of the capacitor C1 in FIG. 7, is fixed at 5V by means of turning the switch SW7 ON in the period (sampling period) between the time T21 and the time T22 for setting the capacitor C1 at the threshold voltage." (Karube at column 12, lines 45-54 and FIG. 7).

As understood by applicants, Karube describes that when node "b" in FIG. 7 varies, DAC circuit 13 may not output correctly to node "a," and Karube describes turning the switch SW7 ON in the period between the time T21 and the time T22 for setting the capacitor C1. Karube does not describe "the display driver device comprising means for detecting an open output of the display driver device to the picture elements," as Karube does not describe any such monitoring for open outputs to picture elements.

Thus, at least because Karube does not teach or suggest "the display driver device comprising means for detecting an open output of the display driver device to the picture elements," Karube does not anticipate claim 1. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is in condition for allowance and request that the examiner withdraw the rejection to claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

Independent claim 10 comprises similar features as claim 1 and is therefore not

anticipated by Karube for at least the reason discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claim 10 is in condition for allowance and request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection to claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

Claims 2-8 and 11-16 ultimately depend from claims 1 or 10 and are therefore not anticipated by Karube for at least the reason discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 10. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-8 and 11-16 are in condition for allowance and request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections to those claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

In the Office Action, claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Karube in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0160247 (Miyazawa).

Applicants submit that, for a proper rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) based on a combination or references, the prior art references when combined must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. (MPEP 706.02(j)). Claims 8 and 9 ultimately depend from claim 1, and are therefore not anticipated by or obvious in view of Karube for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1. Miyazawa does not cure the deficiencies of Karube. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 8 and 9 are in condition for allowance and request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections to claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the currently-pending claims are in condition for allowance and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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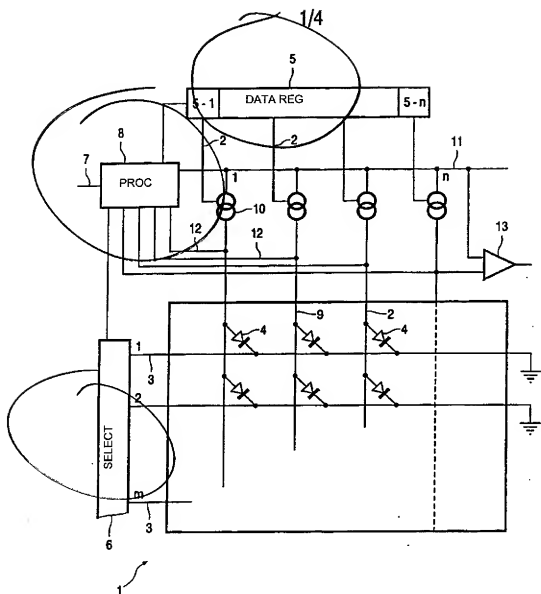


FIG. 1

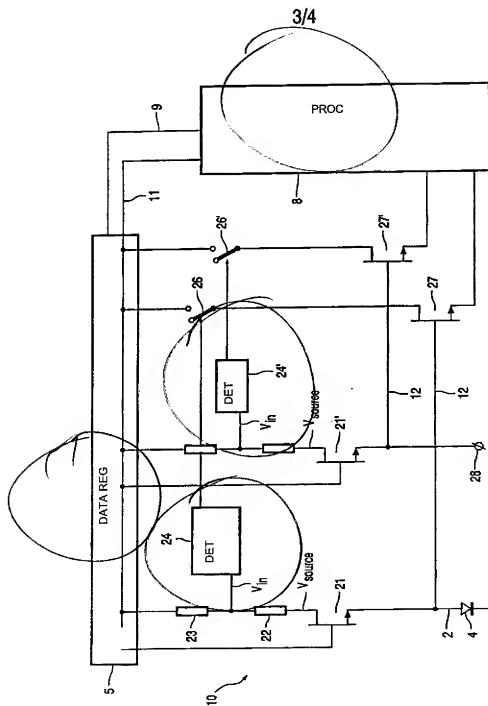


FIG. 3